AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) A method of treating muscle spasms comprising administering an effective anti-spasmodic amount of tizanidine, an acidulant in an amount to obtain saliva with a pH of 2 to 7, a disintegrant selected from the group consisting of crospovidone or microcrystalline cellulose, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient which are formulated into a fast dissolving tablet, wherein 80% or more of the tizanidine in the tablet is released within 20 minutes after administration of the drug; the tizanidine is administered buccally or sublingually so that the tizanidine is absorbed through the mucosa lining of the mouth; and tizanidine bioavailability AUC_{inf} is increased by 10% or more as compared to the AUC_{inf} of an immediate release tizanidine enteral dosage form absorbed through the gastro-intestinal track having an equivalent dose of tizanidine.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the pharmaceutical composition or dosage form releases~~ 80% or more of the tizanidine in the tablet is released in 5 minutes or less.

Claims 4-6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the tizanidine bioavailability increase is 20% or more.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the immediate release tizanidine enteral dosage form comprises the excipients colloidal silicon dioxide, stearic acid, microcrystalline cellulose and anhydrous lactose.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 8 wherein the immediate release tizanidine enteral dosage form is ZANAFLEX™.

10. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~effective anti-spasmodic amount of tizanidine~~ method reduces variations in the bioavailability of tizanidine between individuals in a patient population ~~receiving tizanidine therapy~~ as compared to the variations in the bioavailability of tizanidine between individuals in the patient population receiving the immediate release tizanidine enteral dosage form.

Claims 11-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the reduction is about 30% or more.

19. (Withdrawn) A tizanidine pharmaceutical composition or oral dosage form especially adapted to release tizanidine in the mouth comprising tizanidine and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

20. (Withdrawn) The tizanidine pharmaceutical composition or oral dosage form of claim 19 further comprising an acidulant.

21. (Withdrawn) The tizanidine pharmaceutical composition or oral dosage form of claim 20 wherein the acidulant is selected from the group consisting of ascorbic acid, benzoic acid, citric acid, fumaric acid, lactic acid, malic acid, sorbic acid and tartaric acid.

22. (Withdrawn) The tizanidine pharmaceutical composition or oral dosage form of claim 21 wherein the acidulant is citric acid.

23. (Withdrawn) The tizanidine pharmaceutical composition or oral dosage form of claim 19 wherein 80% of the tizanidine is released in twenty minutes or less after being taken into the mouth.

24. (Withdrawn) The tizanidine pharmaceutical composition or oral dosage form of claim 23 wherein 80% of the tizanidine is released in five minutes or less after being taken into the mouth.

25. (Withdrawn) The tizanidine pharmaceutical composition or oral dosage form of claim 19 that is a congealing liquid pharmaceutical composition comprising a hydrophilic polymer and a poly-protic hydrogen bonding cross-linking agent.

26. (Withdrawn) The tizanidine pharmaceutical composition of claim 25 wherein the cross-linking agent is tannic acid.

27. (Withdrawn) The tizanidine pharmaceutical composition of claim 25 wherein the hydrophilic polymer is selected from the group consisting of proteins, polysaccharides, cellulosic polymers and polyacrylates.

28. (Withdrawn) The tizanidine pharmaceutical composition of claim 27 wherein the protein is selected from the group consisting of gelatin, hydrolyzed gelatin, albumin and collagen.

29. (Withdrawn) The tizanidine pharmaceutical composition of claim 27 wherein the cellulosic polymer is selected from the group consisting of hydroxyethylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose and hydroxypropylmethylcellulose.

30. (Withdrawn) The tizanidine pharmaceutical composition of claim 27 wherein the polysaccharides is selected from the group consisting of pectin, carrageenan, alginic acid and their salts, guar gum and tragacanth gum.

31. (Withdrawn) The tizanidine pharmaceutical composition or oral dosage form of claim 19 that comprises a core tablet containing tizanidine sheathed in an annular body of pharmaceutical excipients.

32. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the tizanidine bioavailability has a relative standard deviation of AUC_{inf} that is 10% lower than a relative standard deviation of AUC_{inf} for the immediate release tizanidine enteral dosage form.

33. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the tizanidine bioavailability has a relative standard deviation of AUC_{inf} that is 20% lower than the relative standard deviation of AUC_{inf} for the immediate release tizanidine enteral dosage form.

34. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the tizanidine bioavailability has a relative standard deviation of AUC_{inf} that is 30% lower than the relative standard deviation of AUC_{inf} for the immediate release tizanidine enteral dosage form.

35. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the anti-spasmodic amount of tizanidine is in a dosage form having 2 mg to 8 mg of tizanidine.

36. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the anti-spasmodic amount of tizanidine is in a dosage form having 2 mg to 4 mg of tizanidine.

37-39. (Canceled)

40. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the acidulant is ascorbic acid, benzoic acid, citric acid, fumaric acid, lactic acid, malic acid, sorbic acid, or tartaric acid.

41. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 40, wherein the acidulant is citric acid.